

The BROAD AX

HEW TO THE LINE.

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REVS. LITTLE BILLY WARD, ABRAHAM LINCOLN MURRAY, ARCHIBALD JAMES CAREY, JASPER F. THOMAS, AND D. R. WILKINS WERE UNSUCCESSFUL IN GETTING THE BROAD AX EXCLUDED FROM THE UNITED STATES MAILS.

Saturday, November 29, 1902, the Old Church Organ contained a very bitter article or harangue against Julius F. Taylor. It was the aim and the object of the article, which, it is claimed, was inspired or written by Revs. Abraham Lincoln Murray and Archibald James Carey, to incite some hot-headed fool to shoot or stab us to death. Then on Sunday morning and evening, November 30, after the appearance of the article referred to, Rev. Abraham Lincoln Murray declared from his pulpit or platform in Bethel Church that "he would resign as his pastor for one week in order to murder or to assassinate the writer. These two incidents coming so close together leads one to believe that Rev. Abraham Lincoln Murray and Elder D. R. Wilkins were working hand in hand with the sole object of inducing some of their blind followers to end our existence.

According to the statement of Little Billy Ward, Monday, Dec. 1st, two days after the article appeared in the Old Church Organ against us and one day after Rev. Abraham Lincoln Murray had threatened to reddish his large mule-team hands in our blood, Revs. Abraham Lincoln Murray, Archibald James Carey, and R. R. Wilkins called on him at his office, 130 Dearborn street, for the purpose of ascertaining if he could not devise some scheme to get or to have The Broad Ax excluded from the United States mails. While Little Billy had a light "jag on" he claimed that "he was to receive one hundred dollars for the work or the effort which he would put forth in that direction, that after he had received forty dollars from them he bestirred himself; that the first move he made, so he states, after receiving the forty dollars was to call on Inspector Stuart, of the Post Office Department, for the purpose of convincing that wide-awake and worthy official that "The Broad Ax, at one time printed the words "fat leg," therefore it was obscene literature and it ought to be excluded from the United States mails.

Ward, while under his spell, or while he was engaged in tusseling with the spirits, says "that Captain or Inspector Stuart gave him no consideration whatever, then the idea flashed across his deluded or weak mind that "Inspector Stuart was a Republican and a G. A. R. man, that the editor of The Broad Ax, being a Democrat, that his so-called preachers or clergies would experience no trouble in persuading the good Inspector to exclude The Broad Ax out of the mails. So Little Billy ran up and down the streets until he found Revs. Abraham Lincoln Murray, Archibald James Carey, David Jacksonville Wilkins, and some claim that these preachers and misdirected old Pap Jasper F. Thomas, who thinks he has a strong kick coming against The Broad Ax, and had him to accompany them at the time they called on Inspector Stuart. The preachers, with Little Ward at their head, insisted that "fat leg and preacher" was not very nice reading, and that it was obscene literature, and for that reason The Broad Ax should not be transferred through the United States mails. Inspector Stuart grew impatient with them and he finally said, "a leg is a leg and that is all there is about it, that the editor of The Broad Ax had violated none of the Rules or Regulations of the Postal Laws, that he had no power to place his seal of condemnation upon it."

Receiving no comfort from Inspector Stuart, Ward and his little band of holy men or preachers called on Judge Peter S. Grosscup to see if his honor could help them out. It is said by Ward that Judge Grosscup very sadly informed them that "there was nothing that he could do in the matter, that even if The Broad Ax did mix "a fat leg, a female and a preacher" up together, still he could do nothing with its editor for doing so, that if he had written the article which they (the preachers) thought

was obscene literature he might not have used the words "fat leg" but he declared that all natural persons possess two legs and it makes no difference whether they are fat or lean that the government officials could not punish editors and publishers of newspapers for referring to fat legs."

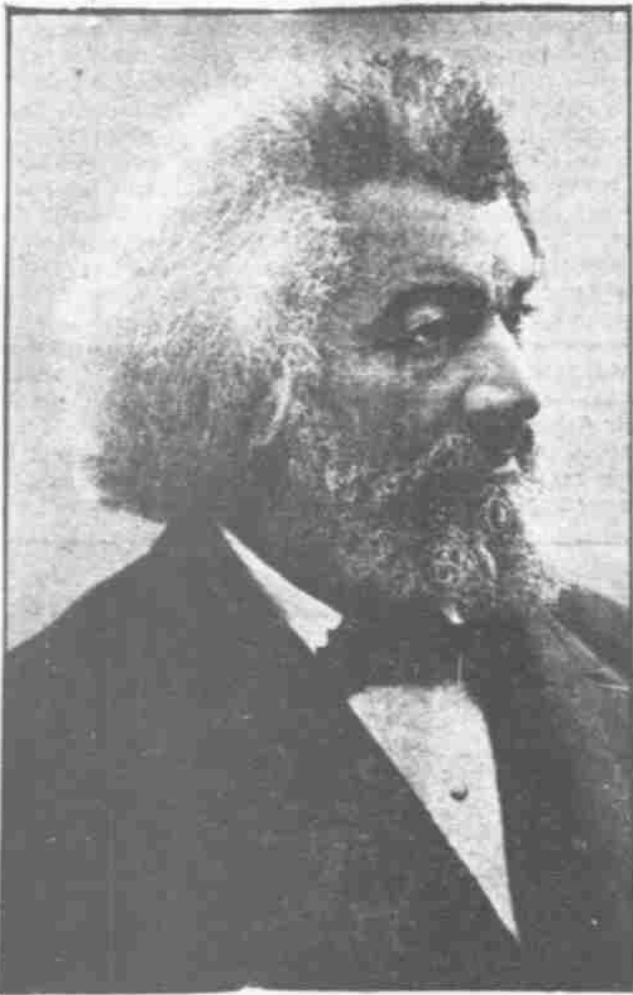
From Judge Grosscup's court Little Billy Ward led his sanctified saints into the rooms occupied by United States District Attorney Bethea, and they urged that official after he had glanced at many marked copies of The Broad Ax which they carried with them, "to instruct or request one of the United States Commissioners to issue a warrant for our arrest and hold us over to the February term of the United States Grand Jury, but District Attorney Bethea informed Little Ward and his crowd of old time Bible-beaters that "he could do nothing for them, that if Julius F. Taylor had wronged or libeled either one of them through the columns of The Broad Ax, then the best or only remedy was to go before the Grand Jury of Cook county and secure an indictment against him."

So, on Monday, December 15, the first day of the December term of the Grand Jury, Little Ward, whom Judge Smith came near sending to jail for robbing women out of their money, and his whiskey drinkers and women lovers appeared in front of the Grand Jury rooms. They were met by Assistant State's Attorney Howard O. Springle, and they informed him that "they wanted to get us indicted on nineteen different points or counts." Mr. Springle said "he would not let them go before the Grand Jury with so many counts or points but if they would go home and cut them down to one or two they could come before the Grand Jury on Saturday, December 20, and on that date Little Billy Ward and Rev. Abraham Lincoln Murray were ushered into the presence of the Grand Jurors, while Jacksonville D. R. Wilkins, who is a side whiskered shake-in-the-grass stood on the outside and did the cussing or the praying.

Sunday night, Feb. 1st, Rev. Abraham Lincoln Murray stood up in his pulpit in Bethel Church and declared that "he hated to break his engagement, that he had promised to be in Indianapolis, Ind., that very same night, that he would rather put a pistol to his head and blow his brains out or words to the same effect, "rather than to be unable to fulfill his appointments, that the only reason why he was not able to be in Indianapolis that night was that he had to be in Judge Neely's court the next morning (Monday, Feb. 2), and assist his Colonel and Little Billy Ward to send Julius F. Taylor to jail or to the "pen" at Joliet."

Last Thursday James Davis, who for the past ten years worked for Mr. A. S. Sage of the Wellington Hotel, died at the Wesley Hospital, and funeral services were held over his remains Sunday from Johnson's undertaking rooms, 27th and State streets. Mr. Sage was present and he not only supplied the flowers but he also paid all his funeral expenses, and he states that "he never had in his employ any person black or white who was more faithful in every way than James Davis," who for ten long years cheerfully performed his duties to the entire satisfaction of Mr. Sage, who has in many ways proven his friendship for worthy Afro-Americans.

Mrs. Emma Stewart, 2916 Calumet avenue, was last Thursday robbed of all her fine dresses and other wearing apparel. It appears that Mrs. Stewart, who is a first-class dressmaker, was out of the house delivering some new dresses to her customers and while doing so the robbers broke in her home and made away with all her gowns and finery. Up to this writing she has not located her things.



FREDERICK DOUGLASS.

Who was the greatest Afro-American so far Sprawned upon the shores of time in this country, for over fifty years. He labored to lighten the burdens of oppressed humanity—the great service which he rendered his country are being more appreciated each day as the years roll on into eternity.

THE LIFE AND TIMES OF FREDERICK DOUGLASS.

It will be remembered by the many readers of this paper that one year ago it contained a complete sketch of Frederick Douglass, from his cradle to his grave, it traced his stormy career from the slave pen in the State of Maryland to the lecture platform, the editor's chair, and on up to United States Marshall and Recorder of Deeds for the District of Columbia.

This year we will quote from one or two of his matchless orations, which swayed the people as never before as he dealt out sledge hammer blows against that damnable or cursed institution—slavery, which dehumanized the whites in this country and brutalized or brutalized the blacks. Away back in the early 50's Frederick Douglass was called upon to take part in a Fourth of July celebration at Rochester, New York, and as he arose to speak among other things he said:

"Why am I called upon to speak on an occasion such as this? Why should I celebrate your Fourth of July? What freedom have I and my people to celebrate? Above your shouts and the roar of your cannon I can hear the crack of the slave whip, the clanking of the chains, and the groans of my oppressed brethren in the South. Your rejoicings do but fill to overflowing my cup of bitterness. You were willing to bare your breasts to cannon to evade a tax on tea, but you turn a deaf ear to three millions of human beings, made in the image of God, who are vainly pleading to you in chains that they may own their bodies, and that they may be protected in the commonest ties of husband and wife, parent and child. While you celebrate the anniversary of your independence, you have coiled up in the youthful bosom of your Republic the serpent of slavery, sucking her life's blood, and sending its poison into every member of her body. Your Declaration of Independence is a Lie! And your flag contaminates the very air of God. Every stripe upon it represents the blood and bondage of my people, and every star glitters to your country's shame."

William Lloyd Garrison, who was dragged through the streets of Boston, with a rope around his neck while dipping his pen in fire and gall while contending for the immediate emancipation of the slaves through the columns of his little newspaper. In speaking of the speech just quoted says "that no more eloquent words

were ever spoken than those which fell from the lips of Frederick Douglass.

Fifty years have passed away since Frederick Douglass first began to raise his voice against slavery, he lived to see it blotted out in a bloody war, but if he could return to this earth again it would not be hard for him to observe that practically the result of that bloody conflict as far as the great majority of the Afro-Americans are concerned has faded away into nothingness; that in the Southern section of this country the Negro is being rapidly denied his civil and political rights. If he was alive today he could hear the moanings or the weepings of hundreds of black men, women and children, while they are being mobbed, lynched, shot down in cold blood like common dogs, driven from their homes, burnt at the stake and their quivering flesh cut up into chunks and sold to the highest bidders for cash, without a just cause. If Frederick Douglass could witness these horrible and revolting scenes they would set his great soul on fire and with his pen and unequalled eloquence he would re-kindle the fires of liberty and justice in the hearts of the American people to such an extent that they would be willing to deal more justly with the Negro.

Frederick Douglass came into this world the latter part of Feb. 1817, and passed into eternity Feb. 25, 1895, he was the first Negro to edit and publish a newspaper in the United States and for seventeen long years he ran his paper "The North Star." It ranked with the other great weeklies at that time and it thundered forth against the unspeakable wrongs perpetrated against his race.

In his Life and Times Frederick Douglass says:

"It was my good fortune to get out of slavery at the right time, to be speedily brought in contact with that circle of highly cultivated men and women, banded together for the overthrow of Slavery, of which William Lloyd Garrison was the acknowledged leader. To these friends earnest, courageous, inflexible, ready to own me as a man and a brother against all the scorn, contempt, and derision of a slavery-polluted atmosphere, I owe my success in life."

On this the 86th anniversary of his birth let all Afro-Americans who reverence the name of Frederick Douglass practice all his noble precepts, so that they will be able to follow in his footsteps.

ROOT POINTS OUT DUTY TO NEGRO.

Loss of Suffrage in South Should Spur Friends to New Efforts.

Deprecates Outcry at Roosevelt, Who Appoints Fewer Blacks Than McKinley.

New York, Special—Elihu Root, secretary of war, speaking tonight at the celebration of the fortieth anniversary of the Union League club, said he feared the country would have to face the conclusion that the experiment of giving the Negro citizenship and equal rights has failed.

"The suffrage has been taken away from the Negro," he said, "and in many of the southern states the black man no longer has the right of suffrage."

"We never can throw off the responsibility that rests on our people for the welfare of these black people that we held in slavery for so many generations."

"Now that the first attempt has failed, the question is what to do, and it should take the greatest thought of the greatest minds of the country."

"After the civil war the great question was, 'What shall we do with the black man?' and the answer was, 'Give him citizenship, equal rights, and he will rise.' Three amendments were added to the constitution and I fear we will have to face the conclusion that the experiment has failed."

South Assails Roosevelt.

"A curious development has been seen within the last year. President Roosevelt has appointed fewer black men than President McKinley did and there are today fewer black men holding office than when McKinley died. Yet loud outcries are to be heard in the south about President Roosevelt's policy of appointing black men to office in the south. Under previous presidents, McKinley, Cleveland, Harrison, and back to Hayes' time, more Negroes were appointed to office and nothing was said."

"A black man attended an official reception in Washington at the white house a short time ago. The black man, as an official of the government, has always attended these receptions. Yet the invitation of the president to these men was the signal for an outcry of a thousand papers in the south that the whites were being insulted."

"I don't want to argue this question. I am merely showing that we have to face a change of feeling in the south where the black man is denied the right to aspire to the highest there is in American citizenship. (This right to aspire to the highest dignity, which formerly was unquestioned, is now questioned. In a short time the white man will succeed in excluding the black man from all offices in the southern states."

This Plain talk on the part of Secretary Root, has the right wring to it and it deserves to be carefully read and acted upon by all the lovers of Liberty.

Rev. Fisher of Joliet came to this big town last week for the purpose of being on hand during the progress of Rev. Abraham Lincoln Murray's libel suit against Julius F. Taylor, and while Rev. Fisher was wandering around the criminal court building he carried an old sack which led those who observed him with it to believe that it contained a dead shoat or dog but it seems that the Rev. gentleman had the Baptismal suit belonging to Rev. Abraham Lincoln Murray sewed up in his sack which he intended holding up in the court room for the inspection of the saints and sinners when he was called to the witness stand. It was decided to adopt that method in order to counteract the testimony of a certain lady who was ready to ascend the witness stand in our behalf. Some mightily interesting developments would have come to the surface if Rev. Abraham Lincoln Murray's baptismal suit would have popped out of the sack or bag which was held by Rev. Fisher.

CHIPS.

Langston, Oklahoma, has a colored Catholic school.

The low, degraded, criminal classes amongst us should be treated as lepers.

We must set a premium upon honesty, virtue and all of those principles which go to make up a great people.—Ex.

Rev. Gilliam, Indianapolis, Ind., has spent the past week in Chicago with Rev. and Mrs. J. W. Robinson, 4764 Armour avenue.

Melville G. Holding, City Oil Inspector, and Mrs. Holding are home again from a ten days' pleasure trip to New Orleans, La.

Attorney John F. Clare has removed his law offices from the Unity Bldg. to the seventh floor of the Chicago Opera House Block.

The Colored Knights of Honor of the World, held their grand lodge at Calvert, Texas, this month. J. T. Bradley was elected Grand Dictator.

The colored people of Texas are asking for a university. It is said that that state sends out 500 pupils to other states yearly to be educated.

Mrs. M. H. Watts, 3742 State street, dealer in cigars, tobacco and candies, is doing a nice business and Mrs. Watts is one of the live agents for The Broad Ax.

Mrs. H. Hart, 419 E. 35th street, cigars, tobacco, bakery and confectionery goods, conducts a neat place and The Broad Ax can be found on sale in her store.

Col. or Elder D. R. Wilkins of the Old Church Organ, hates the writer because he knows that we know something about his quick movements in Jacksonville, Ill.

PERSONAL—Mrs. Warner, 138 State St., 4th floor—painless chiropodist and foot specialist; corns removed without pain. This ad. entitles bearer to one corn removed free.

A few enterprising colored men in Washington, D. C., opened a shoe store about a year ago. (They have had such wonderful success that they are going to enlarge their stock of goods.

Monday evening Prof. Ed. F. Morris, who was assisted by Miss Lillian Beasley, and many other lovely song birds, gave a piano and voice recital at Quinn Chapel, which was largely attended.

Hon Robert Redfield, who has been a warm supporter of this paper since Oct. 1st, 1899, to the present time, says "he always reads it with much interest and that he is glad to see that it is prospering."

Miss Blanche Wright will give a musical recital at Grace Presbyterian church, 34th and Dearborn streets, this coming Tuesday evening. Miss Wright will be assisted by some of the best musical talent in the city.

Many Afro-Americans of this city and county will hold a union meeting at Institutional Church next Thursday night in honor of the births and deaths of Abraham Lincoln, Frederick Douglass, and George Washington.

Charles Daniels:—Have not seen you since we went to the museum. You were sick when I heard from you last. Would be glad to hear from you now at any time. Address 238, 29th Street, Care of Mrs. L. Anderson. Julia.

Miss Anna and Blanche Bruce have given up house keeping on the top floor of Rev. Abraham Lincoln Murray's elegant home at 2306 Wabash avenue, and the young ladies are now living with their aunt, Mrs. Hills, 153 39th street.

Rev. Abraham Lincoln Murray, it seems, delights in borrowing money from the homely wash-women or widows belonging to his flock, and it is maintained that he spends much of their money in buying cake, candy and ice cream soda for his good-looking sisters.